health management. It will not only train health professionals, but will also assist in strengthening the existing institutions in the public health sector, create a pool of excellent faculty, act as a think tank for the Government providing inputs for policy initiatives and set standards for public health education. The research programmes of PHFI would be geared to facilitate policy and programme development in public health through inter-disciplinary studies.

PHFI has decided to establish Institutes of Public Health in Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh and Gandhinagar, Gujarat. The institutes will be fully operational by 2009, although short and medium term education and training programmes are expected to start from year 2008 itself.

Shortage of doctors and nurses

†2060. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is acute shortage of doctors and nurses in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in 80 per cent villages of the country no fulltime doctors are available in hospitals there;

(c) if so, the total number of doctors and nurses required in the next five years and the policy formulated by Government to meet this requirement; and

(d) whether Government have made any plan regarding the doctors who after medical education emigrate from the country to stay and work in the country itself and also, to post them in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) There is no shortage in the aggregate number of doctors and nurses in the country. As per information furnished by Medical Council of India at present there are 6,83,682 allopathic registered doctors in the country. Besides, 30,922 doctors pass out from 269 medical colleges every year adding to the strength of doctor in the country. In addition, there are more than 6 lakhs practitioners of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy in the country. However, there is an imbalance in the availability of doctors in the rural and urban areas of the country.

As regard nurses, according to the Report of the National Commission on Macroeconomic and Health, around 3.25 lakhs nurses would be required by 2015. There are 1597 Graduate Nursing Midwifery (GNM) Schools functioning in the country with an intake capacity of 80000 students (approximately) per year.

In order to expand the facilities of Medical Education and health related services, under Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY) the Government has decided to set up six AIIMS like institutions in under served-states and also to upgrade 13 existing Government Medical College/Institutions in ten States. Further, the Government encourages setting up of new medical college

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

in the Government as well as private sector and also in increase in intake capacity of medical students.

Under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), all PHC's are envisaged to be strengthened by upgrading single doctor PHC to 2 doctors PHC by posting of AYUSH practitioner and skilled nurses at PRC level. The States are encouraged to appoint doctors, specialists and paramedics on contractual basis. Multi-skill training of doctors and in-service training of ANMs/Nurses is done. The States have been requested to strengthen their nursing cadre. Requirement of funds for establishment/strengthening of nursing and ANM schools, as incorporated in the PIP of some States under NRHM (2006-07) has been approved.

Strategic frame work has been prepared to meet shortage of nurses in future in the following manner:–

(i) Establishing Auxiliary Nurse Midwifery (ANM) and General Nursing and Midwifery (GNM) schools in those districts (230) which are not having both these training programmes.

(ii) Establishing post graduation Nursing (M. Sc. (Nursing)) Institutions.

(iii) Regional Institute of excellence be established with the objective of improving the standard on all India basis and provide opportunity to access high quality Nursing Education throughout the country.

(iv) Developing Cadre of nurse midwifery practitioners and establishing training institutions.

In order to check the exodus of doctors and also to attract the doctors to join Central Health Service (CHS), the Government is providing better service conditions *e.g.* higher pay and allowances, better promotional avenues, increase in age of retirements etc. to CHS doctors. A proposal to make mandatory rural posting of doctors is under consideration of the Government.

Raids on manufactures of spurious medicines

2061. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Maharashtra Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Intelligence wing has conducted raids on manufacturers of spurious thyroid drug and is looking into what could be a big chain of illegal drug distributor;

(b) if so, whether huge quantity of spurious versions of Eltroxin was found in Maharashtra and Gujarat; and

(c) if so, what is the outcome of the raids, and what action has been taken against those who are held responsible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes sir, On 7th Jan., 2007